

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

(ESTABLISHED 1872.)

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

One Dollar per Year,
In Advance.
For months, 75 cents. No subscription for a
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Bills, Military, Agricultural, Industrial and Household
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THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE,
Washington, D. C.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT WASHINGTON, D. C., AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MARCH 1, 1888.

ARTICLES FORTHCOMING.

IN REBEL PRISONS.—A Story of one of
Col. Strickland's Officers, Lieut. Wm. Willis,
51st Ind.MRS. SUSAN SUTTON; or, The Yankee
Soldier's Wife. By James K. McGee, 78th
Ill.MATAGORDA BAY.—The Thirtieth Corps
in Texas in 1863. By E. B. Lufkin, Co. F,
12th Me., Weld, Me.IN THE VALLEY.—The Shenandoah Cam-
paign of 1862. By George H. Caphart,
Fargo, Dak.TO RICHMOND.—A Graphic Narrative of
Capture and Captivity. By George H.
Crawford, Co. G, 1st W. Va., Wellsburg, W. Va.HAWKINS' ZOUAVES.—The First Regi-
ment of Color. By J. H. E. White, Sergeant,
Co. B, 9th N. Y., New York City.PORT HUDSON.—A Spirited Account of
this Important Siege and Battle. By Wilbur
H. Weber, Lampass, Tex.PICK AND SIEVEL.—Campaigning with
the Engineers. By Walter H. Parrels, Co.
D, 5th N. Y. Eng., Leavenworth, Mo.CAHARA PRISON.—Life and Death in this
Place of Confinement. By G. J. Trenman.LEWISBURG.—Campaigning and Fighting
in West Virginia. By John T. Booth, Ser-
geant, Co. G, 39th Ohio, Hartwell, O.DURANT'S MILL.—A Part of the Peach
Tree Creek series of battles in the Atlanta
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one who sends a club of six yearly subscribers to
THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, or it will be sent
to any subscriber of the paper on receipt of 90
cents.

TABLE OF PENSION RATES.

We have carefully prepared table of pen-
sion rates compiled from official sources, which
shows the exact ratings for every grade of dis-
ability in a pension bill, and under what
conditions a pensioner may be advanced or
discontinued. It is sent on receipt of 15 cents.

WHY WE PROTEST.

We protest against any reduction of the
revenue now.Because the country is generally prosper-
ous—unusually so—and this prosperity is
based upon a careful adjustment of the rela-
tions of all branches of business, production
and manufacture to each other and to the
whole, which adjustment it has taken many
years of costly experiment to establish, and
which any tinkering with the revenue is
certain to derange. It always has deranged it
in the past, and caused wide-spread em-
barrassment and enormous losses to all classes
of our people, and cannot fail to do so again.Because all the schemes for reduction so
far urged are ill-considered, empiric and dem-
agogic, in which the whole country are not
taken into account, and are, without excep-
tion, the work of men who are striving to
make personal and political capital by re-
ducing "burdens" which do not exist, and
relieving "hardships" which are purely
imaginary. The best evidence of this is the
wide disagreement among the tinkers
themselves—each one wanting to make the
reduction where it will hurt someone else's
interests, and maintain the "burdens" and
"hardships" intact where their own friends
or constituents are benefited.Because under the present revenue system
the country has grown richer more rapidly
than during any previous period of its
history, and much more rapidly than any
other Nation in the world. There is more
work for our people than there ever
was before, they are better paid for a day's
work than they ever were before, their
wages will buy them more of the comforts
of life than a day's wages ever would
before, and it will buy them more than the
day's wages of any other working people in
the world. With such good results con-
stantly before every man's eyes it will be the
height of folly to change the system because
some prating demagog demands it.Because every dollar of the money now
raised by the revenue system in excess of the
running expenses of the Government is
needed to pay the honest debts of the Nation
to the men who saved it at the expense of
their own lives, health and strength, and to
the men who hold the Government's bonds.
To destroy the Government's power to pay
these debts to the soldiers is meanly ungrate-
ful, is bad faith to those who depend upon
the Nation's honor, and is criminal repudi-
ation. To destroy its power to pay off the
bondholders is exceedingly unwise as a
financial policy, and one which will be cer-
tain to bring about serious results. Thus
the experience of the past teaches us beyond
a doubt.We therefore protest against this with all
our power, and we call on all our readers to
join us in making this protest effective by a
strong appeal to their Senators and Repre-
sentatives.

OUR PLATFORM.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE aims to be, in
the largest and best sense, all that its name
implies.A Tribune was originally the chief of the
Roman legion; then he became the protect-
or of the common people against the usurpa-
tions of the aristocracy and the magistrates,
and for this purpose was clothed by the peo-
ple with great privileges and powers. Final-
ly he became, in the largest and widest
sense, the representative and spokesman of
the great mass of the people. All matters
relating to the public welfare were under his
immediate charge; he guarded the interests
of the people, sternly antagonized the
schemers and plotters who sought to enrich
or aggrandize themselves at the public ex-
pense, and was active in everything that
promoted to promote the welfare of the en-
tire people. Much of all that was best in
the commonwealth of Rome was the work
of the Tribune, and they made a name
which is synonymous with lofty patriotism
and indefatigable adherence to the rights
and interests of the entire people.We aim to be—not the Tribune of any
section or locality—but THE NATIONAL
TRIBUNE; the vigilant guardian of the rights
and interests of every man who claims
American citizenship; the advocate of every-
thing that will promote the prosperity of
the Nation, and make its people happier,
richer and better; the unflinching adver-
sary of everything that tends to make any
American poorer, worse, or less happy.We represent and speak for a class of men
who have done more for the country than
any similar number of men ever did for any
country in the history of the world; and we
know that all their aspirations are for mak-
ing this beyond all comparison the greatest,
richest, most enlightened and most prosper-
ous country upon which the sun ever shone.
But we do not represent them alone, nor
confine ourselves to voicing their aspirations.
We are equally the representative of all men
who ardently desire that to be done which
will contribute to the greatest good of the
greatest number of those under the swelling
folds of the Star Spangled Banner.

FALLING INTO LINE.

The battalions of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE
are filling up from the Atlantic
to the Pacific. The work of recruiting goes
on without intermission. This week brought
the following enrolments:A. L. Mendenhall, Co. M, 11th Me., \$11.00
W. H. Long, Fremont, Co., Minn., 5.00
D. K. Blyden, Knox Co., O., 5.00
C. E. Kester, Ogle Co., Ill., 6.00
W. H. Moore, Madison Co., N. Y., 5.00
J. F. W. Edgerly, Montgomery Co., Kan., 10.00
P. J. Fisher, Bedford Co., Pa., 7.00
H. T. Boston, Greene Co., Wis., 6.00
J. J. Hutchison, Ozark Co., Mo., 5.00
A. H. Barnett, Mercer Co., Pa., 5.00
John Kirk, Cumberland Co., Pa., 5.00
J. A. Denning, Wichita Co., Kan., 7.00
J. S. Sherman, Erie Co., Pa., 5.00
James Kerr, Livingston Co., Ill., 7.00
A. J. Green, St. Clair Co., Ill., 5.00
John W. Moore, Harvey Co., Ia., 11.00
W. H. Moore, Macon Co., N. Y., 6.00
S. R. Cole, Sullivan Co., Ind., 5.00
John W. Eschle, Berrie Co., Mo., 6.00
S. R. Apperson, Laclede Co., Mo., 10.00
C. F. Miller, Chautauque Co., Kan., 6.00
C. F. Miller, St. Croix Co., Wis., 6.00

THEY WERE FIGHTING MEN.

The re-introduction of the Disability Pen-
sion Bill will undoubtedly be followed by a
revival of the abuse of the class whom it is
intended to benefit, by the soldier-hating press
and politicians. We shall again be told of
the number of "shirks, dead-beats, coffee-
coolers, latter-day big-bounty patriots," etc,
and Benedict Arnolds of the E. S. Dragg
stamp will again slander their comrades as
the "scrapings of the poor-houses, the slums
and the jails."In anticipation of this it is well to remind
the people of the country of the undeniable
fact that the survivors of the armies of the
Union represent more long and hard service,
more desperate fighting, more killed and
wounded than any set of men since
began and the sword commenced to devour.
Admitting that here and there is a man who
only saw slight service, and perhaps escaped
without going into a battle, it is neverthe-
less beyond denial that, as a body, the veter-
ans of the Union averaged more hard
bloody, long-continued fighting than any
soldiers who ever bore arms. Estimated by
the usual standards of war the most sea-
soned veterans Europe ever had were but raw
recruits compared to them.There were in all—reduced to a three-
years' standard—2,320,272 men in the service
of the United States during the war. These
men in four years fought the unprecedented
number of 2,361 battles and skirmishes, and
nearly 50 of these were battles in which the
fighting and slaughter were greater than is
customary in the great battles of Europe
which have decided campaigns and wars.Of the men who enlisted 84,713—or more
than a great European army—were actually
killed on the field of battle, to say nothing
of those who went to the hospitals or their
homes to die, and nearly 200,000 died of
disease. In all, 400,000 of the young men
who formed this great host perished during
the great struggle.One man in every 65 was killed on the
field of battle.

One in every 56 died of wounds received.

One in every 13 died of disease.

One in every 9 died while in the service.

One in every 10 was wounded.

This is an appalling array of losses, unpre-
cedented in the history of wars.In the face of these statistics it is insensate
to talk of the survivors of the conflict being
made up in any degree of "shirkers,"
"shirks," etc. The man who does so not
only is insolent to brave and much-deserv-
ing men, but he shows himself stupidly ignorant
of the history of his country.

THE IRON AND STEEL TRADE.

The American Iron and Steel Association
has compiled its statistics of the foreign
trade for the year 1887, and these are as in-
structive reading for every patriotic man as
can well be found.The imports of iron and steel during the
year were 1,758,251 gross tons, against 1,095,
564 tons in 1876. That is, we bought from
English and German manufacturers about
700,000 tons of iron and steel more than we
did the previous year. We gave that much
more employment to foreign iron
workmen that should have been given to
American operatives.The value of the iron and steel imported
into this country during last year was \$56,
420,540, against a value of \$41,630,779, for
the previous year.That is, at a time when there is none too
much money in the country, and none too
much work for its people, we sent out of
the country nearly \$15,000,000 more money
than we did the year before. We paid to
English and German molders, cutlers, machin-
ists, railmakers, and rolling-mill opera-
tives over \$1,000,000 a week, which should
have been distributed among men living
under our flag, working side by side with
us in the development of the country, help-
ing us bear the burdens of municipal, State
and National Governments, buying the grain,
meat and wool raised on our fertile acres;
buying goods of our merchants, and sharing
with us all the duties, responsibilities and
glories of American citizenship.The men to whom we paid this vast sum
of money do nothing of the kind. They have
but little of our products. They have shut
out our grain and meat from Germany, and
in England we can only sell in competition
with the starving peasants of India. They
are not helping develop our country and
our institutions, but their own in antago-
nism to ours.That we have increased our purchases
from them is a grief to every man capable
of thinking soundly on economic questions.
The more nearly we come to manufacturing
every pound of steel and iron that we need,
the more prosperous will this country be.
It is nonsense to talk about pushing our
trade into other countries while we are buy-
ing nearly 2,000,000 tons of iron and steel
abroad. Our home market is vastly more
valuable than any we can find in South
America, Africa or Asia. Let us not worry
about building up our shipping or pushing
our goods in foreign marts, until we can sup-
ply our own people.

Business, like charity, begins at home.

HOW MUCH "THE SOUTH" PAYS.

A correspondent who in the main heartily
agrees with and approves of our editorial in
the issue of Feb. 9, ventures the opinion that
in the following paragraph of that article
we have not been exactly fair to the South:
For example, \$9,247,738 were collected last year
as duties on foreign tobacco. In the first place,
this is a tax imposed for the benefit of the people whom
John Johnson claims are oppressed. It was levied to
make the product of their tobacco fields more
valuable. Secondly, as the merchandise upon
which it was levied was mostly consumed in the
towns and great cities of the East, North and West,
it is probable that instead of "the South" paying
one-third of the tax, it probably did not pay more
than one per cent. It would be an extravagant
estimate to say that \$1,000 of the \$9,247,738 col-
lected of fine Havana cigars and high-grade tobacco
was paid in any shape by the people of the States
lately in rebellion. When we remember that the
Government is expended for pensions it will be
seen that in this item of tobacco "the South" pays
about \$25,000 for the support of disabled Union sol-
diers, instead of the \$2,283,000 which John Johnson
would make us believe she does.In the first place, "the South" to which
we alluded, did not include all the people
south of Mason and Dixon's line, for, as we
explained then, more than half of the people
of the Border States were ardent Unionists,
and fought just as earnestly on our side as
any other people. Of course Gen. Johnson
should not have had the assurance to include
them among the people for whom he assumed
to speak.The facts are, as we stated in the article,
that nearly all the revenue from foreign to-
bacco is collected upon very fine cigars and the
leaf to make the same. The detailed
report of the Custom-house collections on
tobacco and its manufactured products for
the year ending June 30, 1887, gives the fol-
lowing figures:

Leaf tobacco of which 85 per cent is of the requisite size and of the necessary quantity of texture to be suitable for wrappers, and of which more than 90 per cent is of the quality of the Havana leaf, all other unmanufactured tobacco, 100 lbs. each, \$1.00	28,750	\$28,750	
Leaf tobacco of which 85 per cent is of the requisite size and of the necessary quantity of texture to be suitable for wrappers, and of which more than 90 per cent is of the quality of the Havana leaf, all other unmanufactured tobacco, 100 lbs. each, \$1.00	15,398,675.31	15,398,675.31	\$36,441.00
Stems of all other, stemmed.....	45,000	45,000	7,649,604.79
Stems of all other, unstemed.....	254	254	21,000.00
Stems of all other, stemmed.....	254	254	31.00
Unmanufactured, not specially enumerated or prepared for smoking.....	1,092,201.00	1,092,201.00	7,000.00
Cigars and cheroots of all kinds.....	7,338.51	7,338.51	3,801,176.80
Cigars and paper cigars, including wrappers.....			16,885.27
Smoking pipes, of all descriptions.....			
Ground dirt, or damp, and pickled snuff or ground dirt, of all descriptions.....	31,873.31	31,873.31	10,250.00
All other.....	879,498.75	879,498.75	86,938.97
Total tobacco and manufactures of.....			\$10,905,125.93
			\$9,127,738.26